



## National Council of Churches of Singapore

新加坡基督教全国教会理事会

Majlis Kebangsaan Gereja-Gereja Singapura

திருச்சபைகளின் தேசிய மன்றம்

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### **National Council of Churches' Position Remains Unchanged: RETAIN 377A**

The recent decision by the Indian Supreme Court to rule in favour of decriminalizing homosexuality has sparked debates here about whether Singapore should also repeal section 377A of the Penal Code. Different parties on both sides of the debate have spoken on the issue and some have even organized public online petitions to garner support for their positions.

The position of the National Council of Churches of Singapore on the issue of 377A, which is clearly articulated in its 2003 statement, remains unchanged. It does not support the repeal of 377A. The Council therefore agrees with the 2014 ruling of the apex court concerning the constitutionality of section 377A and supports the government's decision to retain it.

The Bible clearly and categorically prohibits homosexual behaviour because it is a perversion of the way in which God has ordered human sexual relationships. In light of the Biblical teaching on the subject, the Council believes that the homosexual lifestyle is not only harmful for individuals, but also for families and society as a whole.

The repeal of section 377A would result in the normalization and promotion of this lifestyle, which in turn would lead to undesirable moral and social consequences, a slippery slope as seen in some countries taking this step.

Member of Parliament, Mr Christopher de Souza, made this point eloquently in his speech during the parliamentary debate on 377A in October 2007 that delineates the serious ramifications of repealing this piece of legislation.

The Council urges Christians to continue to pray for the government and the people of Singapore as this contentious issue is being debated, that they will not be influenced by domestic pressures or global trends. Pray also that the government will always act in the long-term interest of the people of Singapore and for the common good.

Above all, the Council urges Christians to pray that God will protect the institutions of marriage and family because they are indispensable for the wellbeing of the future generation and the flourishing of our society.

1 Coleman Street, #B1-27, The Adelphi, Singapore 179803

Tel: 6336 8177, Fax: 6336 8178

Email: [admin@nccs.org.sg](mailto:admin@nccs.org.sg), Website: [www.nccs.org.sg](http://www.nccs.org.sg)

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*"... one body in Christ" Romans 12:5*